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1 October 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. William H. Godel
Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
(Special Operations)

SUBJECT: Meeting in Pentagon on 29 September 1953

1. I was told yesterday that at the above meeting which I believe you chaired, you made a remark substantially as follows: "Tracy Barnes' outfit has MGM people making a movie out on the West Coast."

2. I understand that the remark was made in the course of general discussion but I am afraid that if the above is substantially what you said, it may have created an inaccurate impression. I know that this was unintentional on your part but the implications are sufficiently important so that I feel that I should correct the record and would very much appreciate it if you could either send a copy of this memo to each of the other individuals attending the meeting or if the group is meeting soon again, correct the impression orally.

3. The facts are that one of our people was out on the West Coast about two weeks ago and learned that MGM was undertaking a movie about returning prisoners of war. We undertook to get in touch with MGM to find out the facts and at the same time show to certain MGM representatives an unclassified version of the film about the American fliers. It was understood however that no use would be made of any portion of this film without first getting a clearance for the desired use. We are therefore not having MGM make a film. We have merely made available, for possible use, some material which might be included to advantage in MGM's own film.

4. Our representative is getting back today and as soon as we have the facts we will make them available to anyone who is interested.

5. I hope that you do not think that I am being overly meticulous but in my opinion there is a very significant difference between the impression which might have been created at the meeting and what we in fact have done.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PLANS:

/s/

C. Tracy Barnes

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